

WHEREAS, small businesses are the backbone of the Valdez economy, providing essential goods and services, creating jobs, and contributing to the unique character and vitality of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez recognizes the importance of supporting and promoting entrepreneurship, innovation, and economic resilience through strategic partnerships and community engagement; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Valdez Small Business Conference, taking place on May 5th and 6th, will bring together business owners, entrepreneurs, industry experts, and community leaders to share resources, build connections, and strengthen the local business ecosystem; and

WHEREAS, this annual conference provides a vital platform for education, collaboration, and inspiration—empowering small business owners with tools for success and contributing to the long-term economic sustainability of Valdez; and

WHEREAS, the City of Valdez commends the efforts of local partners, and all participating individuals and organizations who work tirelessly to support small businesses and ensure the success of this event.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dennis Fleming, Mayor of the City of Valdez, do hereby proclaim the week of May 5, 2025, as:

Valdez Small Business Week

and encourage all residents to recognize the vital contributions of our small businesses and to participate in the events and opportunities presented during the conference.

| | CITY OF VALDEZ, ALASKA |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| | Dennis Fleming, Mayor |
| ATTEST: | |
| Elise Sorum-Birk, Deputy City Clerk | |